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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 498
By Bittle

A RESOLUTION relative to the Tennessee Wildlife Management
Areas.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is charged with the management and protection of all of Tennessee's fish and wildlife, including hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS, the Agency maintains many and varied programs designed to effect this statutory charge; and

WHEREAS, an integral part of the agency's programs for the management and protection of the state's vast wildlife population involves the creation and management of wildlife management areas, wildlife refuges, public hunting areas, and land-lease programs; and

WHEREAS, these areas provide desirable habitat for the state's wildlife, and many are utilized through assorted fee processes by the public for hunting activities; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is charged with the regulation of two major commercial programs: commercial fishing and commercial musseling; and

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WHEREAS, the statutory license and permit fees, and other charges assessed to participants in these commercial programs, fail to defray the costs for managing and regulating the programs; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission establishes the Agency budget and generally oversees the activities of the Agency; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we strongly urge the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency to study the programs involving wildlife management areas, wildlife refuges, public hunting areas and land-leases to assure that the needs of the hunting public are being served at a reasonable cost.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we strongly urge the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission to set a budget for the two major commercial programs: commercial fishing and commercial musseling, designed to assure that Agency spending amounts to no more than the monies generated through statutory license and permit fees and other charges.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, with this final clause omitted from such copy.